IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re Application of: |) | |
|------------------------------------|-----|------------------------|
| | : | Examiner: S. A. Fraser |
| Takako YAMAGUCHI et al. |) | • |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 1795 |
| Application No.: 10/529,908 |) | |
| | : | Confirmation No.: 5277 |
| 35 U.S.C. § 371(c) |) | |
| Completion Date: December 16, 2005 | : | |
| |) | |
| For: METHOD OF DETECTING RELATIVE | : | April 21, 2009 |
| POSITION OF EXPOSURE MASK AND |) | |
| OBJECT TO BE EXPOSED, ALIGNMENT | : | |
| METHOD, AND EXPOSURE METHOD USI | NG) | |
| THE SAME | : | |
| | | |

Mail Stop RCE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: